

# know your **LHASA APSO**





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Chapters 1, 2 and 8 were prepared from material supplied by Mrs Frances Sefton, one of the leading authorities on the Lhasa Apso.

Earl Schneider, editor

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# 1 The Lion Dog of Tibet

“Seng Kyi,” the lion dog from the roof of the world with a history as mysterious as the Land of Tibet from which it comes: a fascinating, unique little dog—this is the Lhasa, or Tibetan, Apso.

Westerners call it Apso but there is much speculation as to what the word means. Some think it is a corruption of the word “rapso” meaning Goat-like, the small Tibetan goats being similarly long-coated. Others suggest that it means “covered with hair all over,” or that it is a form of Abso, meaning, approximately, “bark sentinel.” All of these apply to the Apso.

The Tibetans claim that the Apso *must* live in close contact with human beings. And it is certainly true that the Apso who lives in the house develops a more positive character, a gaiety and spark that no kennel-bred Apso can match. It is interesting to note that the two really big Apso Champions both lived as housedogs—and temperament was their outstanding quality.

Because he has lived as a housedog in his native land for so many centuries, the Apso is keen-eared and alert, and quickly gives warning of anything strange and unusual. He does not care for strangers, particularly male strangers, but if on meeting a stranger you make it clear that he is a friend and not an enemy, your Apso will readily accept him. But if a stranger sets foot uninvited on Apso (your) territory, he will not be welcomed!

The Apso develops a remarkable sensitivity and response to the moods of its owner, has great individuality and a mind of his own.

He loves to join in things and be with his human family, but he is in no way an obedient slave; he considers himself an equal. He has a fine sense of fun, and will invite you to join in teasing and chasing games. He can also lie quietly on the floor or in a chair near you for hours if necessary and hardly let you know he is there.



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This is a head study of Champion Brackenbury Gunga Din of Verles, the first champion to be made up in England, where the Apsos have only recently been recognized.

An Apso doesn't like to go out in the rain the last thing at night and get his feet wet, but he does love the snow and wintertime when the air has a snap in it. Apsos love windy weather and will face straight into it, the long coat streaming back from their bodies. They love to tear around empty beaches or sandy land, but good walks along hard roads are better for their feet.



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English Champion Verles Tom-Tru.

The official standard describes the Apso as gay and assertive, moving with a free and jaunty movement. As well as to his character, the physical build contributes to his gaiety. Although small, he is very sturdy, a well-balanced compact little fellow who can be tireless. The famed mountain climber Tenzing Norgay took two of his Apsos on a Himalayan climb, and they were less affected by the exertion than most of the humans in the party.

## 2 History of the Lhasa Apso

The Tibetans themselves call it *Seng Kyi*, "lion dog," because of its resemblance to the symbolic lion of Lamaist Buddhism, the religion of Tibet. The Lion of the priestly

Lamas, sturdy, upstanding, heavily maned, guards the temples and holy places of Buddhist Tibet. The little Tibetan "lion dog" guards the homes of the Tibetan nobles and the monasteries of the Lamas—not on a chain outside but from inside. Thus, over the centuries, living in close companionship with human beings, the Apso has become the ideal housedog, one with exceptional intelligence and sagacity.

Just how the Apso reached this enviable position in the canine world is virtually unrecorded. Tibetans themselves cannot explain it. They regard the little Apso as a useful and delightful companion, a talisman for good fortune which no Tibetan household would be without.

There is no doubt that this is an extremely ancient breed. Unfortunately, the remoteness and inaccessibility of Tibet for so many years, and the lack of historical record, leaves us with only a little information about its history. With the Chinese occupation of Tibet and the probable destruction or removal of all the records which were housed in His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Potala palace in Lhasa, how much will ever now become available? It seems as if the Apso's history will remain shadowed in obscurity and that, at least for now, we can only speculate.

There have been claims that the breed existed as far back as 800 BC. Zoologically, it belongs to the group of canines that primitive man encouraged to become herders, and as such probably has some distant relationship to the herding breeds of Central and Eastern Asia, and certainly with the other small long-coated Tibetan dog, the so-called Tibetan Terrier (a misnomer, as it isn't a terrier breed at all, nor is the Apso).

The best specimens of Apso seem to have always been centered around the spiritual capital of Tibet, Lhasa, so the name Lhasa Apso is really more appropriate than the name used nowadays in Great Britain, Tibetan Apso. The Lhasa location also supports the theory of a religious connection, that the initial spur to breed a small lionlike dog would come from the monasteries.

When Buddhism from China replaced the old religions of Tibet in the seventh century, much of the ritual of the old

superstitions as well as new variations of them was incorporated to make it acceptable to a primitive people. The Lamas, or priests, of the new religion were no fools. Imported along with Buddhism was the symbolic lion—which the Tibetans proceeded to modify to their own requirements. The Buddha of Wisdom is said to have showed his full power over the King of Beasts by making his likeness guard the temples, and follow him around “like a pet dog.” Eventually in legend and picture the “lion” became the little dog which the Buddha could turn back into a fierce lion when he needed a defense against evil forces. The resemblance of the formalized Lamaist lion to the little long-haired dog is not hard to see.

There is definite evidence that for centuries small dogs as special gifts, tokens of esteem and good fortune, were sent by the Dalai Lamas, the spiritual heads of Tibet, to the Imperial Courts of China. These were the “lion dogs”—and perhaps with the actual dogs went the idea of their religious symbolism.

The Tibetan lion dog also influenced the breeds of China. The Shih Tzu (Chinese for Lion Dog) was thought to be a Tibetan breed when it first arrived in the Western world. It is now accepted as originating in China despite its many similarities to the Apso.

The Dowager Empress of China, the last of the Manchus, deliberately bred Tibetan dogs into her own Chinese royal breeds “to improve their coats.” Being keen dog fanciers, through most of the dynasties except the Ming “Cat” dynasty of 1368 (circa 1630) the Chinese probably crossbred the breeds. Everything points to the Shih Tzu being descended at least in part from the gifts of “lion dogs” from Tibet which continued until 1908. The coat is of Tibetan type, long hard topcoat and a dense undercoat, but the broad head, short almost flat face, round eye, the markings and designs of the coat coloring, are typically Chinese. The Apso on the other hand is basically *natural* headed, with more nose than the Shih Tzu (but less than the Tibetan Terrier), a narrow skull and more oval eye.

Although occasional Apsos may have been brought to Europe earlier, it was only at the turn of the century that the

small Tibetan dogs appeared in the West in any great numbers. The Honorable Mrs McLaren Morrison, daughter of an Indian Ranee and wife of an officer in the Indian Army, had some small long-haired Tibetan dogs in Britain about then. Miss Marjorie Wild, now aged over eighty and still active in breeding and showing Apsos, owned a black and white pet Apso in 1901. Several specimens were also brought back by the Younghusband expedition to Tibet in 1903-4.

The first Tibetan breed champion, (he swept the board in 1908 to 1911) a dog called Rupso, was imported from Shigatze in 1906. He stood about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  ins at the shoulder and weighed about 20 lb. After his death he could be seen at the Natural History Museum in London until the Second World War. Then he was banished to storage in the country.

In those early days, all these small long-haired dogs were known as "Lhasa Terriers" and were of varying size and type, anything between 10-14 inches in height. In 1902, the

A five-week old litter of Apsos. All these puppies were born in one litter, illustrating the color variations possible within the breed.

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Although he is small, the Apso is a sturdy, well-balanced and compact little fellow who makes an excellent companion for children.

Reverend H.W. Bush, an accepted authority on Asiatic breeds, pointed out that there were two distinct types, one shorter of nose and leg than the others.

But the smaller one wasn't known as Apso yet. That didn't come until 1929 when Colonel F. Bailey, a British political officer to Tibet, and his wife, the Honorable Mrs Bailey, brought back six small long-haired dogs and called them Apsos. The name got final official Kennel Club approval in 1934 when a Tibetan Breeds Association was set up to represent the four Tibetan breeds then accepted—the big Mastiff; the Lhasa Apso—10 inches high; the Tibetan Terrier—14-16 inches, and the little Spaniel, a typical toy spaniel type, lesser coated than the others.

In 1933, after several trips to Tibet, Mr and Mrs C. Suydam Cutting of New Jersey were presented with a pair of little

Apsos by the 13th Dalai Lama. These were the first serious introduction of the breed into the United States. The Cuttings were later able to import several more Apsos from Tibet to found the famous Hamilton line. They were the first breeders to get American Kennel Club certificates for the breed.

Mr Cutting sold the Hamilton kennels after the death of his wife. Most of the dogs—over eighty of them—now live in Las Vegas, Nevada, with Mrs Dorothy Cohen. She continues the Hamilton bloodline, which so successfully stabilized the type, and appears in the pedigrees of winning Apsos all over the world.

The Apso has always been a popular dog in India, one of the well-known fanciers being Mr Tenzing Norgay, the Mount Everest climber, who now alas, since the death of his wife in 1966, is no longer breeding Apsos. His favourite Apso, Ghangar, was one of a pair given to him by a Lama from Ghangar monastery, and Tenzing's autobiography, *Man of Everest*, contains several photographs and anecdotes concerning it.

### 3 The Ideal Lhasa Apso

The official description and standard for the Lhasa Apso as accepted by the American Kennel Club are guides to the "Perfect Apso." Perhaps no Lhasa Apso has ever achieved this ideal of perfection. These standards, of course, refer to the mature dog; not even an experienced breeder can predict how a puppy will develop. The best way to judge is to observe the puppy's parents and examine his pedigree (counting the Champions). But even this is not definitive.

Here follows the description and standards of the mature dog, by courtesy of the American Kennel Club.

**Character:** Gay and assertive, but chary of strangers.

**Size:** Variable, but about 10-11 inches at shoulder for dogs, bitches slightly smaller.

**Color:** Golden, sandy, honey, dark grizzle, slate, smoke, parti-color, black, white or brown. This being the true Tibetan Lion-dog, golden or lionlike colors are preferred. Other color in order as above. Dark tips to ears and beard are an asset.

**Body shape:** The length from point of shoulders to point of buttocks longer than height at withers, well ribbed up, strong loin, well-developed quarters and thighs.

**Coat:** Heavy, straight, hard, not wooly nor silky, of good length and very dense.

**Mouth and muzzle:** Mouth level, otherwise slightly undershot preferable. Muzzle of medium length; a square muzzle is objectionable.

**Head:** Heavy head furnishings with good fall over eyes, good whiskers and beard; skull narrow, falling away behind the eyes in a marked degree, not quite flat, but not domed or apple-shaped; straight foreface of fair length. Nose black, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, or the length from tip of nose to eye to be roughly about one-third of the total length from nose to back of skull.

**Eyes:** Dark brown, neither very large and full, nor very small and sunk.

**Ears:** Pendant, heavily feathered.

**Legs:** Forelegs straight; both forelegs and hind legs heavily furnished with hair.

**Feet:** Well feathered, should be round and catlike, with good pads.

**Tail and carriage:** Well feathered, should be carried well over back in a screw; there may be a kink at the end. A low carriage of stern is a serious fault.



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At this age Lhasa puppies are soft and tender. Children should be taught the proper way to handle them so as to avoid injury to their furry little bodies.

## 4 Choosing your Lhasa Apso

Now that you have decided that the Lhasa Apso is the breed for you, you are faced with the necessity of making a final choice: picking the individual who will share your household

and be your charge, your responsibility, and your adoring slave—hopefully for the next twelve to fifteen years.

One of the first decisions will be as to whether you want a show dog or just a pet. If a show dog, it is important that you familiarize yourself thoroughly with the standard of the breed, so, if possible, make it your business to attend a number of dog shows and to meet and talk with as many Lhasa Apso breeders as possible, and arrange to visit their kennels.

Your source for a pet might also be a breeding kennel, but it is more likely to be a neighborhood pet shop or a private

Every dog likes to have his own bed. It should be kept in a dry, well-ventilated area which is free of drafts.

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FRANCES SEFTON

This is Champion Verles Yangdup of Cheska, owned by Mrs Frances Sefton. He shows clearly the fantastic lengths to which a beard, whiskers and ear fringes can grow. The eye-fall in this picture is combed back, of course.

breeder who advertises in the classified columns of your local newspaper. The important thing is that if you want your pup to grow up to be a good representative of its breed, it should be a registered purebred.

When you buy a purebred Lhasa Apso, the seller should give you registration papers made out to you in your name at the time the sale is completed. If these are not yet available (and it can happen because of red tape and regulations) the seller must, at the barest minimum, give you in writing the name and registration number of the sire and dam of your puppy, the date of birth, and the name of the breeder. If he cannot provide these, you have a right to question the authenticity of your puppy's registration. The final registration papers should then be furnished as soon as possible.

## **The moment of decision**

The usual advice given to would-be puppy purchasers is that they should see the litter all together and then choose the liveliest, boldest, friendliest little one. This does not apply to Apsos. Naturally one would not choose as pet or showdog any puppy that was obviously nervous and of poor temperament, but the best Apso temperament will not come from the friendliest, boldest puppy. The best prospect will be the one that regards you with some reserve, watches you steadily from across the yard or room, and politely turns its head away when you push a hand under its nose. If you talk quite naturally to it but without making any physical approach (and prevent the children from hauling and mauling it!) it may decide you'll do!

Choosing a showdog of course involves a little more careful appraisal. Selecting a future champion at twelve weeks of age is almost impossible, but a show ring prospect should be recognizable. Ultimate size is difficult to predict in some cases, but to finish at about fourteen to sixteen pounds, the weight at twelve weeks would be around three to four pounds. Compactness is important. The balance of the head will be there, and whether the muzzle will be level or undershot can be seen. The fan of hair over the nose and in front of the eyes that will one day be the long whiskers and moustaches, and the little topknot on the forehead, should also be there, and although the coat will still be short there should be a suggestion of future profuseness.



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Train your puppy to use papers as early as possible. A housebreaking scent sprayed on to the newspapers will indicate to him the purpose for which they are intended.

Watch the puppy playing, and look for the tail well curled over the back, the head held proudly, and a gay, bouncy movement. And although the puppy should be suspicious of you, a human stranger, it should be bold amongst its fellows, perfectly able to take care of itself.

Find all these things and you still might not get a future champion. There's more certainty in future predictions by buying a type youngster of 18 months of age, with some show wins under several judges to its credit. It's never the same as watching a puppy grow up, but there is more certainty about the end result!

### **Male or female?**

Slightly more than half the dogs born are male. Somehow or other the males and females all find homes and their owners are happy regardless of their dog's sex—a roundabout way of saying that there are advantages to each. Since a male



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The coat should first be dampened with coat dressing or water before brushing. Regular brushing will remove dust and dirt and give life and sheen to the hair.

is usually more aggressive, the one instance where he is clearly more desirable is as a watch dog. A female is usually easier to housebreak, gentler with children, and generally more responsive to training.

Hers is a sex problem. The only time a female can be approached by a male is during those periods which occur once or twice a year when she is "in heat" or "in season." (See our section on Breeding.) This can be avoided by having her spayed—a simple removal of the ovaries which is done by a veterinarian, preferably when she is eight or nine months old. There is a widely held but erroneous belief that a spayed female has a tendency to grow fat. Any bitch will get fat if overfed and under exercised, regardless of whether she is spayed or not.

The major consideration should be whether you ever intend to breed or show your bitch. Once the operation is performed, it is not reversible.

### **Size and color**

There is a certain amount of variation in size of Apsos, but the Tibetans themselves prefer the small ones. There is also a variety of colors. Tibetan preference lies with the golden and honey lion shades but there are also blacks, grizzles, smokes, silvers and all these colors with white.

The breed is late in maturing, and is often three or four years old before the full coat comes, with the long ear-fringes and heavy eyefall, the dignified long beard and moustaches. The female will often not be ready for breeding until she is 18 months old, and many are ready only once a year.

## **5 The new arrival**

The place where you acquire your puppy should provide you with a box to take him home in. It is not unusual for puppies to become car sick and nauseous. This passes as the

dog becomes increasingly familiar with auto travel. As a matter of fact, most dogs love to travel in a car once they become accustomed to it.

At home you should have planned before hand where the puppy is to sleep. Dogs, like children, are creatures of habit and they feel much more secure when they have a spot to call their own. This area should be free of drafts as well as extremes of temperature. If at all possible, it should be an area which can be fenced off (discarded window screens are good for this purpose) or a small room to which the movements of the puppy can be restricted. This also makes the later task of housebreaking much easier.

Ideally, his bed should be raised several inches from the floor. If you are unable to provide a factory made bed then he must "make do" with a piece of rug or several layers of blanket folded together to form a mat. The area surrounding the bed should be well protected with newspapers in the event of a natural accident. Puppies will rarely soil their own beds. Quite often a puppy who acquires this undesirable habit can be broken of it by feeding him in his bed.

When the puppy first arrives there will undoubtedly be a great deal of excitement. Everyone will want to stroke, pet and fondle the newcomer. While it is true that a puppy enjoys this attention, he must be given time to do some exploring on his own. It's fun to watch him sniff the various places and wrinkle his nose as something unpleasant or exciting impinges on his olfactory sense. Never chase after a puppy: he can usually run faster than you. Stand still and let him come to you, or even turn and walk away. Curiosity will get the best of him and he'll follow.

### **Picking him up**

Small puppies are quite delicate; even those of larger breeds should be handled carefully. The proper way to pick up a dog is not by the scruff of the neck. As the puppy's weight increases being dangled by the neck is too much of a strain. The proper way is to slip your hand over the dog and then let it slide under his chest between his front legs. Pick him up by using the other hand to support him with his



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After the dog has been thoroughly brushed and groomed, arrange a parting down the middle of the back from head to tail, and on the head bring the hair back, parted in the middle and combed sideways so that it falls elegantly over the eyes.

hind legs tucked under the elbow of the same arm that is holding his chest. In this way his entire body is supported; he will be quite comfortable and less likely to struggle.

### **Feeding the newcomer**

Before leaving the seller, have him set down the daily feeding schedule of the puppy. Get a list of what he's been eating including the brand names if possible. Continue this same

diet for several days to avoid upsetting his digestive system. Then make changes gradually, adding a little bit of the new food (which see under Feeding) to the old until, after a few days, he'll be on his new feeding schedule.

### **Those first few nights**

Not much question about it, the new arrival will be homesick and quite likely to cry. It's probably his first night away from his brothers and sisters, perhaps even his mother. Everything is new and strange. He's lost and trying to let his mother know where he is, not realizing she can't hear him. However the rapidity with which a pup can be distracted indicates that he's crying not in sorrow but from instinct. So try not to overdo the comforting bit.

For the first few nights at least, keep his bed within hailing distance so when he cries you can reply with a peremptory "Quiet." But don't weaken: don't go to him, don't bring him into your room or, even worse, allow him into your bed. Like the camel who begged to stick his nose in the arab's tent, you may never again be able to keep him out. It is never a

Examine your dog's teeth regularly for evidence of chipping or staining.

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good idea to comfort a crying puppy; it gives him the idea that he has only to make noises to gain attention. Better to wait for a period of silence, and then praise him ardently for being a good dog, for being quiet!

There are several time-proven gimmicks you can try. Some owners recommend the use of a wind-up alarm clock. They wrap it in an old towel and put it in the bed, claiming the ticking reminds the pup of his littermates' heartbeats. Another stunt is to wrap a hotwater bottle, two-thirds full of warm water, in a towel, or heat a brick in the oven and put that (well wrapped) in his bed to suggest his mother's warm body.

Perhaps the best idea is this: just before the pup is put to bed, give him some strenuous exercise to tire him out, and then a dish of warm milk. Natural fatigue will usually take over and he'll fall asleep quickly. Only as a last resort should a sedative or tranquilizer be given, and that should be recommended by a vet. Remember that at its worst night crying never lasts more than a few nights. The puppy stops by himself.

## **6 On good behavior**

Instilling the simple habit of unquestioning obedience is the foundation of all dog training, and it should begin as soon as the new puppy enters the home. While some of a pup's training may be wasted if started when he is too young, house manners and good behavior can and should be taught as soon as the puppy becomes adjusted to his new environment and learns to trust his new owner.

The basic act of obedience, the very first thing that the puppy must learn (along with housebreaking, that is) is to stop instantly whatever he may be up to when he hears a sharp command like No! Bad! or a guttural Ah-ah! It should be established early that such a command is to be uttered only once. If obedience is not immediate and complete, the dog should be shamed and, if necessary, lightly disciplined.

You cannot, of course, expect obedience if you say "No" at one time and ignore the same act of disobedience at another, or if one member of the family is permissive while another is a stern taskmaster. So always be consistent as well as persistent when ordering obedience, but refrain from giving any order that you are unwilling or unable to back up.

## Housebreaking

Most authorities agree that a dog cannot be completely housebroken—that is, have the muscular control to fully contain himself—until he is at least four months old, but paper training can and should begin the moment the new-comer enters your home.

While dogs are naturally clean animals, puppies have frequent calls of nature. Evacuation may be expected at least four or five times a day, usually soon after each meal, and urination even more often.

The paper in paper training means newspapers—not shredded newspapers, not crumpled newspapers, but sheets of newspaper spread on the floor several pages thick. At first, spread the papers in every part of the house where the puppy is allowed his freedom. (Such freedom should, it goes without saying, be highly limited.) He will soon show a preference for one or two spots. The papers can then be concentrated there. If he chooses an uncovered spot, move the papers there. Once the newspaper habit has been firmly established, the papers can be moved each day just a little nearer to an area that is more convenient for you. If you have a yard, they can gradually be moved closer and closer to the back door, then half under the door, then outside the door on the porch, and gradually into the yard where, one day, they vanish once and for all.

The papers should, of course, be removed and destroyed as soon as they are soiled, but it is a smart idea to leave one slightly soiled sheet behind to remind him of what the paper is for. Housebreaking sprays are available from pet shops to accomplish this same purpose.

The puppy usually has to relieve himself as soon as he wakes in the morning, and about ten minutes after eating.



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Clean your dog's ears when necessary, but never probe deeper than you can see.

If he is kept in a closely confined space overnight, he should be immediately placed on newspapers and kept there when he awakens. This same is true after meals. Set up a regular feeding schedule that will enable you to anticipate his needs. Shortly after he has eaten take him to the newspapers and keep him there until he has had his movement; when he has had it, praise him highly. Praising him when he does it in the wanted place, and shaming when he does not, are two of the keys to successful housebreaking.

The puppy's last feeding should be given no later than 5 p.m. This gives him the opportunity to empty his bowels before bedtime. Late meals mean that he will probably not be able to contain himself until the next morning.

When a mistake is made, carry the puppy to the spot and point it out to him. Do not ever rub his nose in the mess. Show it to him and shame him as if he were a misbehaving child. If you can catch him in the act, so much the better. Discipline then has a longer salutary effect.

Always scrub any soiled spot at once with a strong detergent so that any lingering odor will not attract him back to it. Ammonia or vinegar are good deodorizers.

## Outdoor training

By the time the dog is four months old outdoor or curb training can formally begin. Some trainers recommend that at this time all newspapers be removed. Others, as suggested earlier, that the spread of newspapers gradually be concentrated to a spot at the outside door, and then under the door with only one corner of the paper showing.

The dog should be taken out immediately upon waking, after each feeding (and for a puppy this means three times a day) and just before going to bed at night—count 'em: five. As the dog matures, is fed only once a day, and is reliably housebroken, the number of walks can be reduced to three. These are, obviously, the first thing in the morning, shortly after his one big meal, and at bedtime.

He should understand that his trips outdoors are solely for

Hidden by the overgrown hair, nails which have grown too long are easily overlooked. Always clip carefully, a little at a time, then stop when the change in texture of the under part of the nail indicates that you are nearing the quick.

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business not pleasure. Allow him to remain outside for about ten minutes (either loose or on leash) or until he has relieved himself—whichever comes first. Then take him back into the house. If he has relieved himself, praise him highly; if he has not, keep him penned or otherwise confined inside for about an hour, and then take him out again.

When you are walking him on leash, always follow the same route. The dog will quickly show a preference for a certain spot. Use a leash long enough to give him as much freedom as possible to sniff around and choose his spot. Smells are important to a dog; never pull yours away from a good “sniffy” spot unless it is obviously polluted.

Gradually, if you take your dog out at the same time every day—remember he has a kind of built-in biological clock—he will restrain himself until you do. While the new puppy owner may find it hard to believe, most dogs prefer the great outdoors to the living room rug.

The dog who lives in the city has a special problem: not to dirty the sidewalks. When yours does evacuate in the gutter, congratulate him. If he seems to prefer the sidewalk give him a sharp “No” and shame him as you pull him to the curb.

## **Off that chair**

Housebreaking is, of course, your pup’s first lesson and by now you should be well on your way with that. Furniture “breaking” can go along with it; that is, if you want to keep your pup off beds, chairs and sofas.

First of all, if he has a comfortable spot of his own, he’ll be less likely to want yours. A stern “No” emphasized with the crack of a rolled-up newspaper will point out his error. Or, if a newspaper isn’t at hand at the critical moment, toss a book, magazine or tin plate to land flat at his side. Don’t hit him—startle him! If he doesn’t see you toss it, so much the better. Let him think it’s a bolt from the blue.

He’ll catch on quickly if you and every member of the family keep at it consistently. Dog repellent sprays are useful for this too. They smell offensive to him but not to you, and are harmless to furniture when label directions are followed.

## **Not my new shoes**

A puppy from three to six months old is anxious to test his new teeth and exercise his jaws on just about everything he sees. Sometimes, too, excessive chewing is the result of a vitamin deficiency, and a vitamin-mineral supplement should be added to the immoderate chewer's diet.

A puppy would rather chew on a big bone than your upholstered sofa. So giving him his own chewable toys to play with will lessen the chances of his going to work on your household treasures. Approval or disapproval of whatever he is chewing on can be shown in your voice. When he chews on his plaything, give him a rewarding "Good boy" but when he chews on yours, an emphatic "No. Leave it alone!" accompanied by a snap of a rolled up newspaper, the toss of a book or magazine or a tin plate at his feet will stop him in mid-action. A scolding or shaking should follow if he persists.

It is unwise to give a puppy any discarded household gear or article of clothing for a plaything. Obviously he cannot distinguish old from new. This is particularly true of objects made of leather: shoes, wallets, pocketbooks, and belts.

## **Down, Rover, down**

If your dog jumps up on people, start correcting this bad habit early. There is no excuse for it. It is particularly unfair to guests. His first jumping will, of course, be directed toward you and members of the family. There are several things that you can do. As he jumps, grab hold of his front paws and fling him away; at the same time order a firm "Down." Or try raising your foot as he rears up so that he bumps against it. If neither of these works, try holding his front paws and stepping on his back toes, or shove your foot against one of his hind legs strongly enough to upset him.

Again, be consistent. Never let a dog jump up when you are wearing old clothes and then expect him not to do the same when you arrive home dressed in your Sunday best.

The obedience commands "Down," "Sit," "Stay,"



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The choke chain. This should always be slipped over the dog's head so that it lies as shown here.

which we discuss in the section on Training are particularly useful when it comes to correcting the jumping dog. The command of "Sit. Stay." should be given the moment a visitor rings your doorbell.

### **To bark or not to bark**

When your neighbors inform you that your dog barks during your absence, dress yourself as if you were going away. Let the dog hear your noisy exit and receding footsteps. If you usually drive away in a car, you will have to get in the car, drive a short distance, and return quietly on foot, making sure that the dog cannot hear you, always remembering that his hearing is far keener than yours.



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Always pet and praise your dog when he has performed particularly well. A small tidbit will reinforce his good behavior.

The moment he starts to bark, bellow out a sharp "No. Quiet." and rush back inside, scolding fiercely and making a great display of bad temper. Have a switch made out of rolled-up newspaper waiting at the door and snap him on the muzzle with that. Or, instead of a switch, some trainers

recommend splashing a cup of water in the dog's face, or using a water pistol. A few lessons like this, before the habit becomes deeply ingrained, should teach any puppy that his howling will only result in an angry master.

It is wise, of course, when leaving a puppy alone, to confine him to a cage or bathroom, making sure that he is comfortable, has drinking water and one of his own toys to play with, and that he will not miss a scheduled feeding. A mature dog, once trained, should be given the run of the house to act as a watchdog. A dog who barks a warning is a valuable companion but a yapper who barks non-stop at anything and everything is a nuisance. Let him bark a few times and then call "Quiet" and hold his mouth closed. At first he will not understand and as soon as you let go will resume barking. Don't be discouraged. Hold his mouth closed and repeat the command over and over until he begins to catch on.

## 7 Feeding your Lhasa Apso

Don't get the mistaken idea that your dog's taste tells him what food is good for him. His taste is no more reliable than a baby's, so choosing the food his body requires is your responsibility, not his. The worst thing you can do is to start catering to a young dog's whims; and the smartest thing is to let him go hungry until he is ready and anxious to eat the food that is right for his nutrition.

It is important to feed a dog at the same hour every day. Dogs seem to appreciate regularity and nature has provided them with built-in clocks. Not only do scheduled feedings help maintain good appetite, they establish regular and satisfactory bowel movements as well. This takes on particular value when it comes to "walking the dog."

Let the following be your guide for feeding your Lhasa Apso. It has been adapted from *The Modern Dog World Encyclopedia*, edited by Henry P. Davis.

# FEEDING SCHEDULE FOR LHASA APSOS

## Age 2 Months

Morning: 1 to 3 tablespoonfuls milk;  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoonfuls cereal.

Noon: 1 to 2 heaping teaspoonfuls raw ground meat.

Afternoon: Repeat morning feeding.

Evening: Repeat noon feeding.

Late evening: 1 to 3 tablespoonfuls milk;  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoonful cod-liver oil once a day.

Evening: 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 heaping tablespoonfuls meat; 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 tablespoonfuls cereal, vegetables or table scraps.

$\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 tablespoonful cod-liver oil twice a day.

## Age 7 Months

Gradually eliminate noon meal.

## Age 3 Months

Gradually increase amounts per feeding, according to puppy's growth and capacity. Gradually eliminate afternoon and late evening feeding.

## Age 4 Months

Morning: 2 to 4 tablespoonfuls milk; 1 to 2 tablespoonfuls cereal.

Noon: 1 to 2 heaping tablespoonfuls raw meat.

Evening: 1 to 2 heaping tablespoonfuls raw meat;  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 teaspoonful cooked, mashed vegetables.

$\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 teaspoonful cod-liver oil once a day.

## Age 8 Months

Morning:  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup milk;  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 slice buttered toast, or 1 to 2 tablespoonfuls cereal.

Evening: 2 to 5 heaping tablespoonfuls meat; 2 to 5 tablespoonfuls cereal, vegetables, or table scraps;  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 slice buttered toast.

$\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 teaspoonful cod-liver oil twice a day.

## Age 9 Months

The feeding for 8 months may be continued as mature diet, or the morning meal eliminated and the dog fed the 10 month's diet.

## Age 5 Months

Increase amount per feeding.

## Age 6 Months

Morning:  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups milk; 2 to 6 tablespoonfuls cereal.

Noon: 1 to 3 heaping tablespoonfuls meat; 1 to 3 tablespoonfuls cereal.

## Age 10 Months—Mature

$\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups meat

$\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups cereal, or 1 to 2 slices buttered toast

$\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups vegetables, or table scraps.

$\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 teaspoonful cod-liver oil twice a day, until warm weather.

All cereals should be moistened to a crumbly consistency with water, milk or broth before measuring. Cheese may be occasionally substituted for meat. The term "table scraps" refers to leftover food from a recent meal, such as bits of meat, fat, vegetables, or bread crusts. Go easy with the cod-liver oil. Overdosage may cause sickness and underdosage result in rickets. Usually one drop of cod-liver oil concentrate is equal to one teaspoonful of a good grade of cod-liver oil.

### **Be cruel if you'd be kind**

Do not feed your pet fish, pork or chicken bones; they can splinter and choke him, or the jagged points can penetrate his alimentary canal. Beef rib, shin or marrow bones, or ham hocks, are fine.

Avoid spicy foods, fried foods and sweets. No candy, no cookies, no cake. We are not by any means referring to the commercially prepared dog "candies" which are made without sugar and are highly nutritious.

Don't pass your pet bones or scraps from the table—at least not while you're eating, and always place them in his own bowl, kept in its usual spot. Feed the dog before you eat or, if his regular feeding time comes later, keep him out of the dining area until the table is cleared. There is nothing

The Apso is a bright and eager little fellow always anxious to please.

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Should it become necessary to reprimand your dog for misbehavior, do so firmly without showing bad temper. Let him know by the tone of your voice that you are displeased.

more disconcerting to a guest than to watch the family dog longingly eye every bite he puts into his mouth.

## **Water**

Your dog should be offered fresh, cool water about three times a day. Do not give him water within an hour before or an hour after eating, nor immediately after violent exercise. Apart from these times, you can keep fresh water constantly available if you wish.

## **Weight Watching**

The best method of determining whether or not your dog is receiving the right amount of food is to weigh him regularly. Puppies should increase their weight rapidly and constantly, while adult dogs should maintain theirs. The easiest way to weigh a dog is to weigh yourself alone, then again with the dog in your arms, and subtract your own weight.

The overweight dog's daily food consumption should be cut to less than his body needs for maintenance until the

stored fat has been consumed, and the diet then maintained at the lower level.

## 8 Grooming the Lhasa Apso

There is good practical reason for the spectacular coat of the fully matured Apso. In Tibet, winter lasts eight months of the year with temperatures well below freezing. The Tibetans do not heat their houses, they just put on extra layers of clothing. The Apso likewise. He has soft dense underwear, topped by a hard, but not coarse, outer coat. This is the coat that grows to full length, sometimes as much as eight to ten inches so that it trails along the floor. It takes three or four years to grow.

Tibetan terrain is rough and frozen, good reason for the thick hair that grows between the pads of the feet and serves as cushioning. There are almost constant high winds, and as the climate is dry, there is much dust. This is where the fall of hair over the eyes comes in useful, serving as a protection against dust, wind and glare.

The Tibetans do not usually groom their dogs; they allow the coat to mat and twist. However, it is not difficult to keep an Apso coat in good order. The secret is *regular* grooming. A good brushing twice a week with a bristle brush, and a combing once weekly will prevent felting of the coat. The coat should first be dampened with coat dressing or water before brushing, or the brush itself can be sprayed.

The Apso does not cast its coat the way other breeds do; the top coat rarely comes out, only the undercoat at the change of seasons, but this does not cast all over clothes or furniture, but into the top coat itself, forming mats. That is why regular brushing can keep this dead undercoat under control as well as removing dust and dirt and giving life and shine to the hair.

Particular attention should be paid to the hair on the head and behind the ears, under the neck and round the legs and feet. These are the places that if skimped rapidly get matted. Neglect of the hair between the pads of the feet particularly can cause discomfort if dirt is allowed to collect and harden there to form solid lumps. If the dog does not tease it out

himself it should be snipped out.

When the dog has been thoroughly brushed and groomed all over, arrange a parting down the middle of the back, from head to tail, and on the head bring the hair back, part it in the middle and comb sideways so that it falls elegantly over the eyes. The beard and whiskers should be carefully brushed to their full length. The tail is brushed upwards and allowed to curl over the back in an elegant plume.

## **The Bath**

Apsos do not have much "doggy" smell, so generally speaking they need to be bathed only when they are dirty. A bitch should be bathed before she is mated or after she has been in heat. Otherwise, tubbing about once or twice a year is enough, provided the dog is regularly brushed. A show dog of course will need to be bathed far more frequently.

Try to avoid giving a puppy a bath before it's six months old. You can, if the need arises, use one of the commercially prepared aerosol foam baths to give him a dry cleaning. With these, the foam is simply sprayed on, rubbed in and wiped off. Dry baths are also useful for grown dogs in damp or cold weather, or at times when a tub bath is impractical.

Choose a warm spot. The water temperature should be roughly the same as the dog's which is about 101°. A rubber-hose shower spray (or a sprinkling can) will come in handy for wetting him down and rinsing him. Use a medicated soap or shampoo formulated for dogs, working from the tail forward. Keep his head dry until last because dogs usually don't shake until their heads are wet. Protect the eyes and ears from soap. Plug his ears with cotton and rub a little mineral oil or vaseline around the eyelids.

Work the lather well down into the skin because that is where the real dirt is. Do not use soap on the head. Rinse lightly and then repeat the shampoo, as it is better to give two complete soakings, and if the dog is not then spanking clean, a third.

Overdo the rinsing to make sure you get out every bit of soap. Then wrap him in an old beach towel and blot him vigorously to stimulate the circulation. Do not rub dry





because this can cause the coat to felt. Particular care should be taken to dry the ears and feet, especially between the toes. A portable hair dryer can be used for the finishing touches.

If no hair dryer is available, the dog could be vigorously exercised. Indoors if it's cold out, outdoors if the weather is warm—but better keep him on leash. Newly bathed dogs love to roll on the ground.

All the time you are bathing him make it a point to talk to him soothingly. If you make the first bath a game, you will have a lot less trouble with the later ones.

## **Anal glands**

Before your dog leaves the tub there is another matter to attend to. At the base of every dog's tail there are glands that secrete a yellowish fluid. This can become impacted and, if not attended to, cause a rectal infection. Find the glands, one on either side of the anal opening. Use tissue or cotton, and with thumb and forefinger, squeeze gently to force the impacted matter out.

## **Care of the teeth**

His teeth should be checked regularly. Food particles lodged there can be just as damaging as when lodged in yours. Dogs who are allowed to gnaw on large bones, hard baked dog biscuits, hard rubber and rawhide toys generally manage to keep their teeth in good condition. Keep tartar from forming by regular brushing. Use a man's hardbristle toothbrush and a mixture of pumice, salt and baking soda. If a toothbrush bothers him, try using a rough washcloth.

## **Ear care**

Never wash out a dog's ears with soap and water. Clean them with a cotton swab dipped in peroxide, alcohol or olive oil. Never probe deeper into the ear than you can see. If the ears seem unusually sensitive, or have a foul smell, better consult your vet. There are several good medicated dog earwashes on the market. Ask your pet shop owner to recommend one.

## Care of the feet and nails

Examine the feet carefully after each outing. If the nails are kept trimmed or the dog given enough exercise on hard pavements to keep them worn down there is little danger of trouble from this source. But if they are allowed to grow too long, they may catch and tear off. Too long nails can also affect a dog's gait.

Using a nail clipper—particularly on dark nails—can be a tricky job for the novice. The quick, which is the spongy area of the nail, will bleed if cut into. When the nails are light colored it can be readily seen as a pinkish area.

When clipping dark nails, cut a little at a time and study the cut area each time. As you approach the quick the nail texture will change, becoming first powdery and then spongy. That's the time to stop. A good rule of thumb is to clip just under the hook of the nail. If there is no hook, chances are the dog doesn't need a manicure. A coarse file can be used to smooth any rough edges, filing from the base of the nail toward the tip.

Tar and gum can be removed from the pads and hair of the dog's feet with acetone. If that isn't available, try nail-polish remover.

## Eye care

A dog's eyes sometimes collect foreign matter when he's been for a romp in high grass or ground cover. This can be irritating and should be immediately washed out with warm water, or a commercial dog eyewash. Any mucus around the eyes can be removed by soaking.

## 9 Training your Lhasa Apso

Being a good dog trainer is a little like being a gardener with a green thumb. Just as some people have a knack for making things grow, others have a knack for making pets obey. "Knack" is just a zip phrase for "know-how" and know-how can be taught—and learned.



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"Come." With a long check cord attached to your dog, call him to you and tug at the cord to make him respond. At the same time offer a reward.

The first lessons in dog training should be yours, not your pet's. First you will have to learn patience and self-control. The need for patience cannot be overemphasized. Time tediously spent in teaching some simple trick can be lost by one foolish outburst of temper. Hand in hand with self-control comes persistence. Repeat each lesson until it has been learned. But repeat it always in the same way, with the same command, in the same tone of voice.

You will quickly discover that your pup is naturally intelligent, eager to learn, and happy when he knows that you are pleased with his efforts. But your pup cannot learn everything at once. He can absorb just so much at a time and will learn his lessons more easily if they are keyed to his growing capacity to learn—from kindergarten to high school and, finally, university.

Certainly no serious training should be entered into until the dog is from four to six months old. Before that, of course, he can be taught those manners we discuss under Good Behavior, to wear a collar and leash, to follow on a leash (although not to heel), and to come when called. At six months, simple obedience training can usually be given to

the small breeds. Advanced obedience training should be delayed until your dog is from 12 to 18 months old.

**Training collar:** This is also known as a Chain Slip Collar. It doesn't look much like a collar until it is on the dog. It is merely a length of fine mesh chain with a ring at each end.

**Leashes:** You will need three: regular, six-foot, and 20-foot. This last can be a length of light sashcord or clothesline. Leather leashes are preferable to chain leashes; they have resilience and give, and are more comfortable in your hand.

**Rewards:** Since you will want to reward your dog for successful effort, a supply of his favorite treat should be at hand—dog yummys, perhaps, or a cooked frankfurter cut into half-inch rounds. His favorite toy will come in handy if you want to hold his attention, and when teaching him to fetch.

**Discipline:** Newspaper rolled and scotch-taped into a tube,

"Sit." Press firmly on the dog's hindquarters with one hand while pulling back on his lead with the other. Maintain the pressure until he obeys the command.

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to be slapped into the palm of your hand or across your leg is all that is necessary, except for the truly recalcitrant animal when a light switch can be used to tap him on the rear end. Another disciplinary aid is a metal pie plate or a juice-can containing a few old bolts and nuts and sealed shut. These tossed next to (not at) the misbehaving dog, particularly when he is looking the other way, will distract him from what mischief he may be up to. It is always wise to introduce the element of surprise into discipline. Don't let the dog see it coming. Let him regard it as a thunderbolt from heaven!

## **Fundamentals**

A dog should have but one teacher and the first formal lessons should be given away from possible distraction by other people or pets. All lessons should be made simple and kept interesting. No one training period should last longer than 15 minutes; such a period twice a day will prove fruitful. Only one command should be taught at a time and instruction in that should be persisted in until it has been thoroughly learned.

The noted dog authority Dr Leon F. Whitney feels that best results are obtained by training when the dog is 36 hours hungry if he's a grown dog. And that he should be trained just before the anticipated meal with his reward consisting of advance samples from that meal. The period of just 36 hours is important. In 24 hours the dog is not hungry enough to do his best and after 48 hours he is too hungry to think of anything but food.

The successful teacher uses words of command that are short and simple, and he always gives the same command for the specific act.

**Understanding his name:** Perhaps you've bought a pedigreed pup with a name as long as a German baron's. That's for his registration papers. Give him a call name for everyday use. Make it short—preferably one syllable—and one that sounds like no other in the household. Insist that everyone call him by the same name. Use it *every* time you call him, especially to his food.

**Puppy walking:** Teaching a puppy to walk on a lead is not difficult. First get him used to his new collar by letting him wear it around the house for a little while each day, gradually lengthening the periods until he thinks no more about it. Then tie a short streamer of rag to it—or an old necktie—and let him drag that around. He will tug at it but before long he will get used to the idea of something dangling from his neck.

Next substitute a short leash for the trailing rag. Let him drag this around the house; under supervision, of course, because he is likely to chew the leather or catch the loop on some protruding object which could choke him. The next step is to parade him around the house (and yard, if you have one) on the leash, but *letting him lead you* and coaxing him along.

When he's used to this, take him on the sidewalk for his first venture. Call him to your left side and start walking. He will quickly discover that it is useless to struggle and more comfortable to stay close enough to keep the leash slack. When he does walk quietly by your side, praise him extravagantly, and stroke his muzzle.

**To come when called:** If from puppyhood he associates his name with something pleasant, he'll come when called—usually. But there will be times, especially outdoors, when something else will demand his attention and he'll be more interested in that than in you. He must learn to come when he hears his name no matter what his own preference is.

Take your pup outside to an area that is free from any obstruction that could entangle a leash. Attach either a 20-foot training leash to his chain slip collar, or a length of light (quarter-inch) sashcord. Allow him to romp around, getting further and further away from you. When his attention is centered elsewhere, call him cheerfully by name and invite (not command) him to come. If he responds, caress him with praise and slip him a reward.

If he does not return immediately, put more sternness in your voice, make it a command, wait only a moment for response, and then give the line a sharp jerk—not to choke but to startle him. If he still doesn't react, keep repeating the order sternly as you slowly shorten the line with quick jerks

until he is at your side. Now, even though he has returned reluctantly, praise and reward him, and then let him resume play. Now again, when his attention is attracted elsewhere, repeat the exercise, and keep repeating it for about fifteen minutes.

When after a number of lessons he responds more or less regularly, try it without the leash. If, however, his response is unsatisfactory give him additional controlled training and try again later.

**Sit:** Quietly gather up the leash in your right hand to shorten it, and order "Sit." Place your left palm on his hindquarters and press down until he sits. As he does so, keep his head and shoulders up with the shortness of the leash. He may want to lie down or flop over. Straighten him up with your left hand on his flank, or use the leash to pull him into a sitting position. If he stretches out flat, step gently on his front toes. Remember that you are teaching "Sit" not "Down," so don't be half-hearted about it and give in.

When he's in the correct position, slip a treat into his mouth and praise him. Let him remain sitting for several moments, praising all the while, then say "Okay" and walk a few steps and he'll get up to follow. Repeat a dozen times a day, always rewarding him when he responds, and keeping him sitting longer and longer each time.

Soon he will come to associate the command with the hand pressure and anticipate it before his rump is touched. When you think he's got it, drop the leash on the ground and walk away a few feet as you keep repeating "Sit."

**Shake Hands:** With the dog in "Sit" position, push against his right shoulder with your left hand. As his foot comes up, take it in your right hand, shake it as you say "Shake hands" then praise and reward. Keep repeating until he has learned to do it without your touching his shoulder. After he has learned it well, teach him to shake left-handed by a slightly varied command: "Other *paw*" for instance.

**Down:** The next step is to teach him "Down." With one hand, hold him by the collar, give the command "Down" and press down on his rump with the other. When he is

sitting, use the right hand to pull his front feet out from under him while you press down on his shoulders with your left hand.

As with "Sit" when he's in the right position, slip him a treat and praise him. Let him remain down for several moments then say "Come" and take a step or two when you want him to rise. Repetition of this will soon teach your dog to go down on all fours at the command "Down" and remain there for ever lengthening periods.

Some trainers break this into two commands: giving "Sit" first and then "Down."

**Stay:** This command is an extension of "Sit" and "Down" and a valuable one it is too. It enables you to control your dog under any and all circumstances—to stop him from dashing at a passing car, or from leaping on a visitor.

Start with the dog on a six-foot leash in the "Sit" or "Down" position. Face the dog and order him to "Stay." Back away slowly, admonishing him with your upraised "Beg." This is an appealing trick, easily taught. Hold a tidbit above his head with one hand and help support him with the other.

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hand. If he breaks, give him a sharp “No” and replace him in position. At first go only as far as the length of the lead. When he has learned “Stay” while you hold the lead, then stretch it on the ground pointing from him to you as you back away. Keep repeating “Stay” or “No” according to his reaction. Back farther and farther away until there is a wide gap between you and the end of the leash. If he stays even only momentarily at first, still praise and reward him. Eventually he will learn to “Stay” even when you pass out of sight.

**Heeling:** “Heel” is the Obedience Command for your dog to walk close beside you. By tradition and expedience, dogs are trained to heel on the walker’s left. Hold the leash in your right hand, letting it pass in front of you, through the left hand, to the dog. Now, if you have not already done so, is the time to use the chain slip collar. Buy one that fits properly; it should overlap by two or three inches. Ask the dealer to explain the proper way to form the noose and to slip it over the dog’s head. It must be put on correctly, otherwise the chain will not slide freely back and forth through the ring.

Place the dog on your left, step off with your left foot, at the same time command “Heel” and give the lead a jerk. Hold the leash short and he will automatically check himself. The collar tightens around the base of his neck when he pulls; it loosens when he relaxes. If he pulls ahead or drags behind, give the collar a little jerk, that’s all, just a jerk—don’t drag him into position. It’s the collar that does most of the training. He is comfortable only when he’s walking correctly.

Keep repeating “Heel” every time you jerk the leash, and reward him with praise when he accompanies you correctly. The correct position is always alongside your left leg, his head close to your knee. Command “Sit” each time you stop and “Heel” when you start out again.

**Turning:** When you are about to make a left turn, get his attention with a “Heel” and at the same time tighten up on the leash with your left hand to keep him from bumping into you. Turn on your left foot, bring the right foot around in the new direction. If he walks into you, bump him with your ankle, say “Heel” sharply, and this, with a slight jerk, will remind him what to do. A turn to the right is easier although

the dog has farther to travel. Turn on your right foot, swing your left and, saying "Heel," circle the dog around on a taut leash.

**Heeling off leash:** You will know that your dog is fairly well trained at heeling when you can walk with the leash handle held loosely. The next step is to remove the leash altogether. If he's learned to "Come" when called, your job will be much easier. Otherwise, if he wanders off, retrieve him bodily, put the leash back on and continue heeling on leash until you think it is safe to try it "off" again.

## 10 In Sickness and in Health

As the proud possessor of a new puppy your concern, and rightly so, is that he receives the best treatment and health care of which you are capable. Puppies, like human babies, have not had time to build up immunity to disease, and this is why you should avoid taking them out on to the streets until they are at least four months old. A certain amount of protection may be given them by the antibodies called colostrum which they imbibe with their mother's milk. This immunity lasts for a few weeks after they are weaned and so protects them for only a limited period of time.

### **Inoculations**

In order to further protect your puppy, medical science has developed several vaccinations which can be given to him and, if properly followed up, will protect your dog from the most dangerous diseases for the rest of his life. These are true Distemper, Hepatitis, two types of Leptospirosis and, of course, Rabies. Vaccination for rabies is required by law in many communities.

### **Temperature**

The dog's normal temperature is 101° to 102.2°F and if it goes higher than that and stays high for 24 hours, consider it

a danger signal. A dog's temperature, is taken rectally, like a baby's.

## **Distemper**

True Distemper which is correctly called Carre's Disease after the man who studied it, is seldom seen today, thanks to our advanced methods of immunization. However, the word "distemper" is commonly used in a broader sense to designate a number of general symptoms. These include high temperature, mucousy nose and/or eyes, loss of appetite, diarrhea, listlessness, frequent sneezing, vomiting and a deep cough low in the abdomen as distinguished from a bronchial cough which is higher up. While these symptoms are enough to make one suspect distemper, by themselves they will not

"Shake Hands." With the dog in "Sit" position, push against his right shoulder with your left hand. As his foot comes up, take it in your right hand, shake it as you say "Shake Hands."

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“Sit-Stay.” With the dog in the “Sit” position back slowly away while repeating the command.

support a positive diagnosis because many other less serious illnesses will frequently show the same signs.

Some of the characteristics of true Distemper are photophobia, or fear of light; a distinctive temperature curve, and conjunctivitis which is an inflammation of the membranes lining the eyelids. The puppy will hide in dimly lit areas and, when exposed to light, squint and show discomfort. The so-called diphasic, or saddle curve of temperature, is another characteristic symptom, one which the veterinarian will want to know about and interpret. In the later stages of distemper the temperature is usually 103 to 104°F.

Frequently, pustules or sores are seen on the stomach. The skin, when pinched, retains the crease, returning slowly to normal in contrast to the skin of a healthy dog which snaps back.

In the early stages of any illness remotely resembling distemper, keep the puppy warm and check its temperature daily, keeping a written record. This will help your vet make

a positive diagnosis if it becomes necessary. Baby aspirin can be given three or four times daily, and the puppy should be hand fed the following diet if necessary: Boil 4 oz of milk and 4 oz of water and allow them to cool. Add 2 oz of Karo syrup, the yolk of an egg and a pinch of salt, and mix well. Give it to the puppy freely. If you have to resort to spoon feeding, pull out the lips at the side to form a pocket and pour in a spoonful at a time.

The control of diarrhea is discussed further on.

If symptoms persist for more than three days, you must, of course, contact your veterinarian. However, do not become unduly discouraged. It is possible that it isn't true distemper, but one of the lesser puppy ailments from which chances are good for a complete recovery.

## **Constipation**

Diet is usually to blame. Give your dog something else to eat. Provide more vegetables and roughage like kibble and dog biscuits. For fast relief, use milk of magnesia—a child's dose; or, if you prefer, olive oil straight or mixed in with his food. When the situation has been corrected, continue the new diet; otherwise the condition may reappear.

## **Diarrhea**

This too is frequently the result of wrong diet. Mix boiled rice and cooked hamburger together, half and half. To this add ten percent of the total bulk in canned tomatoes or cottage cheese. A teaspoonful for a puppy to a tablespoonful or two for an adult of Kaopectate or milk of bismuth can be given every three hours. For severe continuing cases, give the dog 6 oz of black coffee sweetened with Karo syrup. Remove all drinking water but give him ice cubes to lick when thirsty. If diarrhea persists, however, consult your veterinarian.

Whenever a dog suffers from either constipation or diarrhea it is a good idea to see if he's been chewing on something he shouldn't. Wood, rubber, plastic, wicker, foam rubber, wire insulation, paper and carpet are just a few of the possible culprits.

## Tracheobronchitis

Usually called "Kennel Cough," this is a common ailment of puppies. It is characterized by a dry gagging cough which is usually more severe at night. A dog can't clear his throat like a human can; his efforts appear as though he has swallowed a feather. In every other respect, the puppy appears okay; even its temperature is normal. Fortunately, Kennel Cough is a self-limiting disease; this means that the dog usually recovers without treatment although coughing may continue for as long as six weeks.

There are dog cough syrups available to ease his raw throat, or a child's cough syrup may be used. For severe cases your vet will prescribe one of the antibiotic drugs which frequently relieves the problem.

## Skin ailments

Differentiating between eczema, mange, ringworm, and other skin diseases is really a job for the professional. Small skin lesions may be treated with a mixture of equal parts of iodine and glycerin applied daily. Many of the general skin remedies available at pet shops will prove effective for minor ailments.

**Caution:** Some skin diseases are transmissible to humans, so wash your hands carefully after handling a dog with any skin ailment. If a skin condition persists or appears to be spreading by all means consult your veterinarian.

## Worms

Even the best-cared-for dogs are subject to worms. But not all worms are the same. There are roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, and tapeworms, just to name the more common. Each requires its own special treatment. So be sure of your worm and the medication you're using if you decide to worm the dog yourself.

**Symptoms:** Actual appearance of the worm or worm segments in bowel movements or vomit. A "potbelly,"





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Hold the handle of the lead in your right hand, taking up the slack with your left. Walk along repeating the command "Heel." Tug the dog gently into position each time he pulls forward or holds back.

diarrhea, persistent vomiting, runny (but not mucousy) eyes and nose are also signs. Dragging the rump on the floor is sometimes an indication, but this usually means there is an accumulation of impacted matter in the dog's anal glands which should be removed.

Take a sample of the dog's stool in a small jar to your vet. He will examine it microscopically to determine what type of worm, if any, your dog has and will prescribe the correct medication.

"Heel." With the dog seated at your left side, facing in the same direction, give the command "Heel," tug at the lead and start forward with your left foot.

## **Fleas**

This problem must be attacked on two fronts: You must not only rid your dog of fleas, you must exterminate the ones infecting his sleeping and living area. This is because the fleas drop off the dog to lay their eggs. Use a good flea powder or aerosol spray according to the directions on the container. Then go over the animal with a comb to rid him of the dead parasites. The same thing will have to be done again in about ten days as a new batch of fleas will have hatched from eggs by then.

Don't forget to clean and fumigate his quarters thoroughly; otherwise he will be quickly reinfested. New on the market is a flea-killing collar which is worn around the dog's neck; it works 24 hours a day.

## **Lice**

Unlike the flea, lice spend their entire life-cycle on the dog. Their eggs, called nits, are fastened to the hairs of the animal and can be seen on close examination. Usually several dips at ten or twelve day intervals are necessary to eradicate lice as the nits are extremely resistant.

## **Ticks**

These resemble small purplish lumps looking like tiny grapes. They bury their heads in the dog's skin, or inside his ears. If you have a steady hand, they can be removed by touching them with a burning cigarette. A safer approach is to touch the tick with a cotton swab dipped in alcohol or camphor. This causes the tick to loosen its grip and it can then be plucked off with tweezers. Grasp the tick firmly as close to the skin as possible. If you pull a bit of skin with it, don't worry. This ensures that no mouthparts have been left behind to cause an infection. Peroxide makes a good antiseptic.

## **Pills**

The best way to give a pill is to hide it in the animal's food;

but if he won't eat, or the pill is to be given on an empty stomach, try this: place your left-hand palm on top of his head, with your thumb on the right, your forefinger on the left. Now squeeze at the hinge of the jaws until they open. Drop the pill far back on his tongue, then with your fore- and center fingers poke it down his throat. Quickly close the jaws and hold them closed while you gently stroke his throat.

## **Liquids**

If they are bland and not unpleasant, try mixing them in with his food, or with corn syrup. Mild-tasting liquids can be poured into his mouth from a small bottle; you'll find this easier to handle than a spoon. Place the forefinger in a corner of the dog's lips and draw out the under lip to form a small pouch. Pour the liquid slowly into it. Hold the pouch out and keep his head up until he swallows. Massaging the neck helps. The simplest solution of all, and perhaps the one to try first, is to pour the medicine into his dish, tell him how good it is for him, and watch him lick it up.

# **11 First Aid**

The well informed pet owner should familiarize himself with this section so that he will know what to do in the event of an emergency. This is not to imply that accidents happen frequently to dogs; they do not. The average city dog may go through life without ever having a call of an emergency nature. However, in the unlikely event that something should happen, here are a few things to prepare for.

## **Restraint**

A dog in pain may, on occasion, revert to a semi-wild state. So it is wise to approach any wounded animal gently, speaking soothingly to him, watching his eyes and head for any sign of reaction. Should he snarl, bare his teeth or attempt to bite, it is wise to throw a heavy fold of blanket over him and gather him up in that.



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"Fetch." Apsos love to play games and will often learn to retrieve a ball without any formal training.

### **Broken bones**

There are two types. Simple fractures in which the broken bone remains in position, and compound fractures where the ends of the bone are displaced so that they do not meet snugly. The latter is far more serious. Either should be set by a veterinarian as soon as possible.

If there is any question in your mind whether or not it is a fracture, better play it safe and splint the leg until the services of a vet can be obtained. The simplest splint consists of two sticks (broken tree branches will do in an emergency) which are laid on either side of the leg and then tied securely above and below the suspected break. This keeps the dog from moving or thrashing around; such action can cause the broken ends to slash through the skin and perhaps sever an important blood vessel.



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It is easy to keep the dense coat of the Apso free of hitchhikers if you spray him regularly. Part the hair in several places to make sure the insecticide penetrates to the skin.

Occasionally a dog's tail will be broken, and the same procedure should be followed. It is not uncommon to see a dog with a kinked tail owing to a break which was not set at the time of injury.

### **Cuts and Wounds**

A dog's tongue is usually the best instrument for treating these. Allowing him to lick a cut will both clean it and remove foreign matter. However, if the wound is severe or is in an

inaccessible location, you will have to assist the dog. Flush the area with clean warm water and remove as much of the dirt as possible with a wet cotton swab. When clean, the area can be flushed with peroxide.

Severe cuts or missing skin wounds may require suturing and for this the services of a vet will be required.

An old-fashioned remedy which is effective to staunch bleeding is to apply ordinary granulated sugar to the wound. Boiled coffee grounds are also useful to cause clotting. If the wound continues to bleed, however, it will be necessary to apply a tourniquet or a pressure bandage.

## **Shock**

A dog in a severe accident will generally, mercifully, go into shock. He is less conscious of pain but his condition is often frightening, his pulse and respiration slow and very shallow. He may feel cold to the touch, he may pant, he may have a rapid pulse, and he may exhibit extreme thirst.

Don't try to apply a lot of heat. The best treatment is to cover him with blankets and let his own body heat build up. Don't try to move him unless the weather is extremely cold, or he is in direct sun. In that case, place an open blanket alongside him and try to roll or slide him on to that and then, using it like a stretcher, carry him to a more suitable location, or to where he can be given professional help.

If he is able to drink, you may spoon feed him, but very slowly so that he can swallow naturally. Mix instant coffee as if for yourself and add Karo or pancake syrup, 75% coffee to 25% syrup, plus a pinch of salt. Try to hold his head up so that he can swallow comfortably. If he resists swallowing, discontinue spoon feeding. The caffeine in coffee is a natural stimulant but a mild one, and the syrup contains glucose which provides needed energy.

If possible, get him to the vet's while he is in shock. When it disappears he will be more conscious of his pain.

## **Electric shock**

The wire on the floor offers temptation to any dog and

especially to puppies. If yours chews through a live wire, his mouth can be badly burned, sometimes severely. The shock may cause him to urinate and if he is close to a metal conductor which the urine touches, he might very well be electrocuted. If this happens, make sure that you yourself keep away from the urine until you have disconnected the live wire. Treat as if for natural shock. If his tongue or lips are severely burned, take him to the doctor. If not too severe, flush them with strong cool tea.

## **Poisoning**

When poisoning is suspected, you may have to do several things all at the same time, so better summon assistance. Your first thought should be to determine the identity of the poison so that you can administer the correct antidote. Once you know that, you can phone your vet or your city's Poison Control center if you're lucky enough to have one (most large cities do) for instructions. Almost always the poison container lists the proper antidote for human consumption; follow the same instructions for your dog, adjusting the quantities to that for a small child.

Meantime, administer a dose of peroxide, diluted half and half with water (one tablespoon of peroxide for each 10 lb of dog is a good rule of thumb). This will cause the dog to vomit. It is also an antidote for phosphorous frequently used in rat poisons.

After the stomach settles, give him Epsom salts—a teaspoonful in water—to empty his bowels. Epsom salts is an antidote for lead poison, frequently caused by paint and even paint smells. Ordinary photographers “hypo” (sodium thiosulphate), a teaspoonful in water, is a general antidote for several common poisons including arsenic.

## **12 Good breeding**

If you are seriously considering breeding Lhasa Apsos either as a hobby or a profitable vocation, you will need a lot more information than this general handbook can provide. Go to

dog shows. Talk with professional Apso breeders. Read books on canine genetics and scientific breeding. You'll quickly discover that while breeding dogs can be a profitable business, it is also a demanding one, requiring a great deal of meticulous care and know-how, and that it is frequently filled with heartache.

## **When?**

It is best to wait until the bitch is in her third "season" or "heat" before breeding her. By that time she will have reached full maturity. The average "heat" period may last up to 28 days. It varies, however, with the individual. Some bitches are in season only a short time while others remain receptive for the full four weeks. There is no definite rule about this. Some Apsos are ready only once a year.

Just after the vaginal discharge has stopped (between the eleventh and thirteenth day) is when most breeders mate their bitches. After she has been impregnated she must still be kept confined because it is quite possible for her to mate with more

Should it become necessary to give pills to your dog, press at the hinge of the jaw with your thumb on one side and forefinger on the other. Use the index finger of your other hand as a pusher and don't be afraid to shove the pill all the way down.

SALLY ANNE THOMPSON





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To force-feed liquids. Pull the lips at one side of the jaw out to form a pocket. Pour slowly from a small bottle, a little at a time, giving the puppy a chance to swallow.

than one dog. If it has “taken” she will go out of heat shortly after the mating.

## **The Stud**

Before your bitch approaches her season you must arrange for the services of a male dog, known as a stud. The laws of canine genetics should be considered carefully when making your selection. Unless you use a friend’s male, you will have to make arrangements with a professional breeder. He may either charge you a fee, the amount of which varies depending upon the value of his stud, or he will agree to “pick of the litter” for part if not all of his fee. If you make this deal be sure to specify in writing at what age he is to make his selection, or you may find yourself holding the litter for months while he makes up his mind. Remember, too, you may be paying far more than a full stud fee if you lose the most valuable pup of the litter.

Utilizing the services of a recognized breeder not only gives

you the use of his stud, but the advantage of his many years of experience.

The bitch's period of gestation runs from 58 to 65 days with the average 62 or 63 days, approximately nine weeks.

As for the actual whelping of the puppies, no novice should attempt it alone the first time. He should have an experienced person, if not a veterinarian, standing by.

## 13 Showing your Lhasa Apso

Like horse racing, the primary purpose of dog shows is "for improvement of the breed." While today's average exhibitor is probably moved by the prestige as well as the profit motive of an important win, the fact remains that the many breeds which are recognized by the American Kennel Club (the chief sponsor of dog shows) have undergone remarkable improvement over the years in type, conformation and temperament.

All American Kennel Club shows fall into one of two main classes: so-called "point" shows at which points are accumulated toward championships, and sanctioned "match" shows. These last are more informal and are designed primarily for the pleasure of local club members and exhibitors. Young dogs usually receive their first show experience at these regional shows.

To earn the Champion title—the "Ch." which is frequently prefixed to a dog's name that makes him so much more valuable—a dog must accumulate a total of fifteen points. The maximum number of points that can be won at any show is five, so it takes even a vastly superior dog at least three shows to win his championship. These must include at least two major shows and be awarded by three different judges.

The dogs are judged by breed in six different classes, separated by sex. There is a class for Puppies; another class for Novices (six months of age and over who have never won a first prize at a show except in puppy classes); one for American-bred dogs; the Bred by Exhibitor Class (all dogs except Champions bred and shown by the breeder or a

member of his immediate family); and the Open Class (for any dog six months of age or over). Finally, the Winners Class open only to undefeated dogs of the same sex which have won a first prize in one of the other five classes.

### **Finding a show**

Unless you have had experience in showing dogs, and yours shows exceptionally fine promise, it is a sound policy to have him make his debut in a sanctioned match show. To locate such a show you can keep a watchful eye on the sport pages of your newspaper, but to be sure of adequate advance notice, the American Kennel Club (51 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10003) will provide you with a listing of shows in your area.

At these events tension is less than at a point show and advice will be given freely by the more experienced fanciers of your breed and by the judge himself.

## **14 Life Span**

The development of a six-month-old pup may be compared to that of a child six years old; the dog, mature in one year, is equivalent to the youth of fifteen. After two years the dog does not age quite so fast. Each single year is the equivalent of man's four. In age, the ten-year-old dog may be compared to the 56-year-old man, while the sixteen-year-old animal is, at heart, an old gaffer of 80.

The Apso lives a long time. Fit, healthy dogs of 18 years are not unknown, and there have been some who lived into their twenties. The breed is late in maturing, and is often three or four years before it is complete. An Apso at the age of seven or eight, when most dogs are veterans, is in his prime.

However slowly the passing years lay their hands on your friend, the time will eventually come when he turns gray around his muzzle and his playfulness slackens. See that he still gets plenty of fresh air and sunshine; exercise, too, but no more long romps. Just quiet walks with him well-blanketed



SALLY ANNE THOMPSON

Over the centuries, living in close companionship with human beings, the Apso has become the ideal house dog, one with exceptional intelligence and sagacity.

if it's cold outside. Since his sedentary life may make him subject to constipation see that he gets soft food easily digested; less starch, more milk, and other high quality protein foods. If he is rheumatic, do not give him raw meat but cooked fish and eggs instead.

### **And at last**

Usually a dog retains his faculties, although diminished, to the end. However, if infirmities should develop which make your pet's life a burden, it is far kinder to take him to your veterinarian. There he can receive the blessing of a kindly sleep, gently administered, completely without pain, so that he can slip happily away, leaving behind tender memories of a faithful, loyal and courageous companion.



**KNOW YOUR  
GERMAN SHEPHERD**



**ENJOY YOUR  
CANARY**



**KNOW YOUR  
GOLDFISH**



**ENJOY YOUR  
POODLE**



**ENJOY YOUR  
PERSIAN CAT**



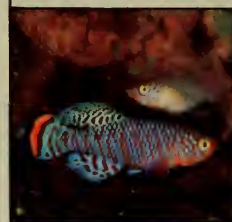
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